

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-37 (Canceled)

38. (New) A compound made by the process comprising the steps of:

- a) spray drying a suspension S containing a precipitated silica and a phosphate of an element selected from the group consisting of group Ia of the periodic table of the elements, group IIa of the periodic table of the elements and a rare earth; and
- b) recovering the compound obtained in step a).

39. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, wherein in step a) said suspension S is obtained by mixing two precursors of the phosphate with a suspension of precipitated silica, and by, optionally, disintegrating the mixture obtained.

40. (New) The compound according to Claim 39, wherein said precipitated silica suspension is obtained by disintegrating a filter cake obtained from a reaction for precipitating said silica.

41. (New) The compound according to Claim 39, wherein said precipitated silica suspension has a dry matter content in a range of 16% to 24% by weight.

42. (New) The compound according to Claim 39, wherein in step a), the two phosphate precursors are added to said precipitated silica suspension, each in a solid form or in a form of an aqueous solution, under conditions such that said phosphate is

formed, the precursor supplying the phosphate portion per se optionally being added first.

43. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, wherein said suspension S of step a) is obtained by mixing either a precipitated silica constituted by a filter cake from a reaction for precipitating said silica, or a suspension of precipitated silica obtained by disintegrating a filter cake from the reaction for precipitating said silica, with the phosphate, and step b) optionally comprised disintegrating the mixture obtained in step a).

44. (New) The compound according to Claim 43, wherein said suspension of precipitated silica has a dry matter content in a range of 16% to 24% by weight.

45. (New) The compound according to Claim 43, wherein said phosphate is added in a solid form, water also optionally being further added.

46. (New) The compound according to Claim 43, wherein said phosphate is added in the form of a suspension.

47. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, wherein said suspension S has a dry matter content in the range of 16% to 24% by weight, immediately before spray drying it.

48. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, wherein said spray drying is carried out using a nozzle atomizer.

49. (New) The compound wherein in step b), said compound is being recovered in the form of substantially spherical beads.

50. A compound according to Claim 38, wherein said phosphate is sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium or a rare earth phosphate.
51. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, wherein said phosphate is a calcium phosphate, a monocalcium phosphate (MCP), a dicalcium phosphate (DCP) or a tricalcium phosphate (TCP).
52. (New) The compound according to Claim 51, wherein said calcium phosphate is a monocalcium phosphate (MCP) or a dicalcium phosphate (DCP).
53. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, having a phosphate content of at least 10% by weight.
54. (New) The compound according to Claim 53, having a phosphate content in the range 20% to 60% by weight.
55. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, having a tamped packing density (TPD) of more than 0.29.
56. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, having a DOP oil uptake of more than 170 ml/100g.
57. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, having a DOP oil uptake higher than the one of a composition obtained by dry mixing said precipitated silica in the solid form and said phosphate in the solid form.
58. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, having a pore volume (V_{d1}) constituted by pores with a diameter of less than 1 μm , of at least 1.2 cm^3/g .
59. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, having a BET specific surface of 60 m^2/g to 250 m^2/g .

60. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, having a Carr index of less than 0.1.
61. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, having:
- a wear resistance R_{wr2} of at least 60, and/or
 - a wear resistance R_{wr5} of at least 50%, and/or
 - a wear resistance R_{wr10} of at least 15%.
62. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, being in the form of solid substantially spherical beads.
63. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, being in the form of substantially spherical non powdery beads.
64. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, being in the form of substantially spherical beads with a median diameter d_{50} of at least 80 μm .
65. (New) The compound according to Claim 38, being a support further conditioned by a composition comprising at least one liquid absorbed on the support.
66. (New) The compound according to Claim 65, wherein said composition has a liquid content of at least 50% by weight.
67. (New) The composition according to Claim 65, wherein said liquid is a liquid additive, optionally a liquid animal foodstuff complement.
68. (New) The composition according to claim 65, wherein said liquid is vitamin E, vitamin E acetate or choline hydrochloride.
69. (New) A liquid animal foodstuff complement comprising the compound as defined in claim 65.

70. (New) The liquid animal foodstuff complement according to claim 69, being simultaneously a nutritional additive for animals.
71. (New) The liquid animal foodstuff complement according to claim 69, wherein said liquid is vitamin E, vitamin E acetate or choline hydrochloride.
72. (New) An anticaking agent, comprising a compound as defined in claim 38, said compound optionally having been milled in advance.
73. (New) A liquid atomization processing aid, a solid milling processing aid, a pelletizing or a tableting aid, comprising a compound as defined in claim 38, said compound optionally having been milled in advance.